

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157361
ORIGIN ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-14
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-07 OES-07 FEAE-00
DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 PM-04 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01
USIA-15 /121 R

DRAFTED BY USERDA:AIA:JEAMMONS:GLS
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PM/NPP: J MCGUINNESS
OES/NET/RD: V ADLER

-----087409 071623Z /44

R 071427Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS STATE 157361

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, IAEA

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN 1973 REVISED EDITION OF IAEA REGULA-
TIONS FOR SAFE TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

REF: IAEA LTR OF 3/31/77 TO MISSION

1. IN RESPONSE IAEA REQUEST IN REF LETTER FOR U.S.
COMMENTS ON PROPOSED CHANGES OF DETAIL IN SUBJECT REGULA-
TIONS, MISSION IS REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT TO IAEA SOONEST
FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN COORDINATED
WITH INTERESTED USG AGENCIES (DOT, NRC, ERDA):

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 157361

A. THAT IAEA PROMULGATE COMPLETELY REPRINTED SAFETY
SERIES NO. 6, TERMING IT THE QUOTE 1973 REVISED EDITION,
SECOND PRINTING UNQUOTE, AND NOT THE QUOTE 1977 REVISED
EDITION UNQUOTE. THIS PRINTING SHOULD INCLUDE THESE 90-
DAY CHANGES PLUS THE MAY 14, 1975 QUOTE MINOR CHANGES
UNQUOTE; AND

B. THAT FOREWORD TO REPRINTED EDITION SHOULD ENCOURAGE MEMBER STATES AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT ORGANIZATIONS, IN ADOPTING ANY CHANGES BASED ON THIS EDITION, TO ALLOW FOR OPTIONAL USE OF EITHER THE QUOTE OLD UNQUOTE VERSUS

THE QUOTE NEW UNQUOTE WARNING LABELS IN SECTION V, DURING AN AT LEAST 18-MONTH TRANSITION PERIOD. (TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, A TRANSITION PERIOD HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED BY THE PANELS OF EXPERTS IN THIS SUBJECT AREA).

2. IN TRANSMITTING U.S. RECOMMENDATIONS, MISSION SHOULD URGE AGENCY TO FORMALLY PROMULGATE THESE CHANGES AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.

3. IN ADDITION ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS, MISSION ALSO REQUESTED ADVISE AGENCY THAT WE NOTE POSSIBLE ERRORS AT TWO POINTS IN DOCUMENT. IN INTRODUCTORY TEXT TO PARAGRAPHS 534 (A) AND 537 (A), ONE PROVISION ALLOWS, IN CASE OF FULL LOADS, A CERTAIN RADIATION LEVEL ON ANY EXTERNAL SURFACE OF PACKAGE IN VEHICLE. SPECIFIC WORDING AS PROPOSED WOULD IMPLY THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE PACKAGE. ACTUALLY, IN MOST-FULL-LOAD SHIPMENTS THERE IS MORE THAN ONE PACKAGE INVOLVED. IT WOULD BE MORE CLEAR, AND PROBABLY MORE ACCURATE, TO USE THE TERM QUOTE ANY PACKAGE UNQUOTE RATHER THAN QUOTE THE PACKAGE UNQUOTE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 157361

4. RE PARA. 502, WE BELIEVE U.K. AND PERHAPS ONE OR TWO OTHER COUNTRIES ARE LIKELY OPPOSE U.S. PROPOSAL FOR CONTAMINATION LEVELS UNDER PARAGRAPH 502. THIS PROPOSAL IS TO SOLVE A PROBLEM ENCOUNTERED BY ERDA IN SHIPMENTS OVER A PERIOD MANY YEARS. ERDA ASSISTED DOT IN IDENTIFYING AND STUDYING THIS PROBLEM AND IN DEVELOPING SOLUTION PROPOSED BY DOT TO IAEA. IAEA REGULATIONS ALLOW FOR INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES TO BE MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN IAEA RULES. OTHER COUNTRIES ARE FREE TO IMPOSE NATIONAL LIMITATIONS IF THEY WISH. THE ABSENCE OF THIS PROPOSED REVISION WILL MAKE IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE SPENT FUEL SHIPMENTS AND REMAIN IN LITERAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE IAEA REGULATIONS. WITH POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE INCREASED FLOW IN SPENT FUEL TRAFFIC FROM OTHER COUNTRIES INTO UNITED STATES, IT IS VITAL THAT THIS PROPOSED CHANGE BE ENACTED. WE MUST RESIST ATTEMPTS BY OTHER COUNTRIES TO DELETE THIS PROPOSED CHANGE.

5. MISSION REQUESTED ADVISE IF IAEA HAS PROBLEMS WITH THESE COMMENTS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770241-0704
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770782/aaaactdh.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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